

1 10. (Amended) A slider, comprising:  
2 a transducer for transferring information to and from a rotating disk medium  
3 during read and write operations; and  
4 a pad which maintains substantially continuous contact with the medium during  
5 the read and write operations, wherein the pad has a leading edge that faces into a general  
6 direction of relative motion between the slider and the medium, the pad has a trailing  
7 edge that faces away from the direction, the leading edge has a width that is substantially  
8 perpendicular to the direction, the trailing edge has a width that is substantially  
9 perpendicular to the direction, and the width of the leading edge is substantially narrower  
10 than the width of the trailing edge.

1 38. (Amended) The slider of claim 10 wherein the width of the leading edge is  
2 much narrower than the width of the trailing edge.

1 39. (Amended) The slider of claim 10 wherein the leading edge is a tip and the  
2 trailing edge is a straight edge.